

IN THE CLAIMS

Delete claims 8-10 without prejudice toward the continuation of prosecution thereof in a continuing application.

Amend claim 1 (twice amended) as follows:

Claim 1 (twice amended), line 2, after "having the" insert --tumor necrosis factor binding--;

line 4, replace "eukaryotic" with --mammalian--.

Insert new claim 11 as follows:

G² ~~11~~ A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said soluble recombinant protein having the tumor necrosis factor binding characteristics of human TBP-I consists of a protein extending from any one of residues 1-20 through any one of residues 180-182 of SEQ ID NO:2.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 11 presently appear in this case. No claims have been allowed, although claims 1-6 have been indicated to be free of the prior art. The official action of January 27, 1997, and the references cited therein have now been carefully studied. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully urged.

Briefly, the present invention relates to a method for the production of TBP-I by transfecting mammalian cells with a vector encoding the whole human type-I TNF receptor, culturing the